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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/749,966	01/02/2004	Liu Gui Tain	USP2168A-MC4	9682
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RAYMOND Y. CHAN 108 N. YNEZ AVE., SUITE 128 MONTEREY PARK, CA 91754			EXAMINER OMOTOSHO, EMMANUEL	
			ART UNIT 3714	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 06/22/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/749,966

Applicant(s)

TAIN, LIU GUI

Examiner

Emmanuel Omotosho

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 March 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-29 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-29 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Information Disclosure Statement*

The applicant's field of endeavor, "Poker Dealing Device", contains numerous prior arts pertinent to what is currently being claimed. The examiner is uncertain as to why there is no IDS entry from the applicant. In addition to the next response, the applicant is highly encouraged to put on record pertinent references.

### *Claim Objections*

Claims 3-4, 20-21 objected to because they contain typographical errors.  
Appropriate correction is required.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

RL 2. Claims 1-2, <sup>13, 14</sup> are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hill US Patent No. 6,582,301 B2.

3. Claims 1, 13: Hill teaches a poker-dealing device for dispensing playing cards each having a face side and a card value (Abstract, Fig 8). Hill teaches the device having a receiving cavity for receiving said playing cards (Fig 10 el. 16) and a dispensing slot communicating with said receiving cavity for allowing said playing cards to be dispensed there through in a one-by-one manner (Par. 1 lines 33-52). Hill teaches

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the device having a card reading device comprising a card reader provided at said dispensing slot at a position out of said receiving cavity for reading said card value of said playing card at a time when said playing card is dispensed out of said receiving cavity through said dispensing slot (Par. 19 lines 20-31). A central management unit for generating a game record regarding said playing cards that have been dealt in said card with communication means for communicatively transmitting said card signal from said card reading device to said central management unit in such a manner that said game record is generated at said central management unit based on said card signal read from said card reader with respect to said playing cards dispensed from said poker dealing device in said card game (Par 12. lines 16-45)

4. Claims 2,14: The poker dealing device further comprising a card indicator adapted for forming at said face side of the card to represent said card value thereof, wherein said card indicator is positioned aligning with said card reader such that said card reader reads said card indicator when said respective playing card is dispensed out of said receiving cavity through said dispensing slot (Par 19. lines 6-31).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

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PL 6. <sup>3-12, 15-29</sup> Claims ~~3-29~~ are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hill ("Hill1") US 6,582,301 B2 as applied above, and further in view of Hill ("Hill2") US Pub. No. 2003/0195025 A1 and Fujimoto US Pub. No. 2005/0014562 A1.

7. Claims 3-4: Hill1 teaches all the present invention but fail to specifically show that different types of scanners such as a barcode or magnetic type reader could be used to scan the face of the card. However, searching through the specifications and claims, the applicant fail to show why interchanging between a barcode reader and a magnetic type reader or any other type of card reader provides an advantage, used for a particular purpose or solves a stated problem. Moreover, Hill2 (a child application to Hill1) teaches that the use of different scanners other than optical sensors is a design variant of the invention, and thus any other scanning means could be used (Hill2 Par. 0070, 0117). Furthermore, Hill2 teaches using magnetic reader as a scanner in conjunction with a magnetic layer placed on a specific card (e.g. player ID card) wherein the magnetic reader scans the information/values particular to that card through the magnetic layer placed on the card (Par. 0120). The use of barcode type scanners/readers is well known in the art. If applicant wishes to contend this, applicant should respectfully consider US Patent 5,941,769 to Order in the next response to the office.

8. Therefore it would have been an obvious design choice to one of ordinary skill in the art to interchange between the different type of scanners/readers.

9. Claims 5-6, 18-19: Hill1 teaches a divider inclinedly supported in said receiving cavity to divide said receiving cavity into a circuit chamber and a card chamber for

receiving said playing cards, wherein said card reading device further comprises an electric circuitry supported within said circuit chamber to electronically connect with said card reader (Fig 1 and 10).

10. Claims 7-8,15: Hill1 teaches the electric circuitry having a digital encoder encoding a card signal read from said card reader in a digital form and a signal transmitter electrically connected to said digital encoder (Fig 1 Par. 9 lines 28-42).

11. Claims 9-12,16-17: Hill1 teaches sending card signal through a wireless communication link (Par.9 lines 28-42). In Par. 9 Hill1 teach that any wireless communication could be use for the transmission of data thus it inherently teaches the use of the infra red/radio frequency wireless communication system since this are well known in the art. However, if the applicant wishes to argue this, applicant should respectfully consider Smolucha et al.'s US Pub No. 2005/0116020 A1 Par. 0017 in the response to the office.

12. Claims 20-21: Hill1 teaches the central management unit having a CPU (Par.12 lines 16-28) responsive to said card signal to generate said game record regarding said card values of said playing cards dispensed from said poker device and status of wining and losing and odds for said card game (Par. 12 lines 29-45, lines 53-65).

13. Claims 22-23: Hill1 teaches the central management unit further comprising a result display displaying said game record regarding said status of wining and losing and odds after said card game is over (Par 12 lines 53-65, Par 13 lines 57-63).

14. Claims 24-26: Hill1 teaches the system further comprising a poker table for hosting said card game (Par. 7 lines 46-50), wherein said poker table comprises a

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tabletop defining a betting area and a bet sensor disposed in association with said betting area for detecting said bet therewith to generate a bet signal representing a value of said bet (Par. 7 lines 63-67), wherein said bet signal is transmitted to said central management unit such that said game record is generated at said central management unit based on said bet signal corresponding to said card signal (Par.8 lines 3-7)

15. Claims 27-29: Hill as shown above teaches all the features of the present invention but fail to specifically show that the bet sensors as claimed in claims 27-29 could be weighted bet sensors in which the weight of the chip is used in determining the amount wagered by the player.

16. However, Fujimoto shows that this is old in the casino gaming art (Par. 0057). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate Fujimoto's teachings. The incorporation will add a more secure system that is capable of determining counterfeit money. The motivation comes from Fujimoto's Par. 0057 last line.

### ***Conclusion***

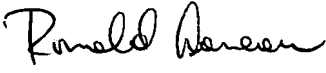
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Emmanuel Omotosho whose telephone number is (571) 272-3106. The examiner can normally be reached on m-f 10-6.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Pezzuto can be reached on (571) 272-6996. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

EO

  
RONALD LANEAU  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

6/21/07